

Governors' Entry Requirements for Sixth Form 2026

Rationale for entry into Sixth Form – September 2026

- To ensure all students (Raising the Participation Age) can access appropriate qualifications from Key Stage 4 and have a broad and balanced Programme of Study to support them onto higher education, further education and/or employment with training.
- Admission to the Sixth Form is subject to the student attributes below and the course entry requirements.
- All students must be coursed on a minimum of 3 x Level 3 subjects
- Progression from Year 12 onto Year 13 courses requires satisfactory progress in line with students' targets, based on internal assessments including Mock examinations.
- Every place in the Sixth Form is subject to continued satisfactory progress, effort and attendance.
- A Level courses have now moved to linear assessment (i.e. no marks accrued in Year 12 A/S examinations can be carried forward to Year 13). Students will be taught on the basis that they will follow the course for two years. If they choose to drop the course after one year and sit A/S Level examinations, they must understand that teachers will not have explicitly prepared students for A/S Level content or assessment criteria, both of which now differ from full A Level.
- Level 3 Applied General courses are A Level or equivalent courses - please refer to the Sixth Form Prospectus for detailed subject information.
- Entry to Sixth Form is ultimately at the discretion of the Head teacher; and all courses are subject to sufficient uptake.

Student attributes for Level 3 courses (AS/Applied and BTEC) - Evidence:

- Evidence of attendance in Key Stage 4 at 97% or above (Attendance certificate/school report)
- The recommendation of teachers in Year 11 and the Year 11 Progress Leader
- Year 11 pastoral record without serious concerns (school report)
- These criteria apply to external applicants
- Each student's results and entry into Sixth Form can be discussed in further detail during their interview for Sixth Form

Access to Year 12 Study Programmes 2026/2027

Programme of Study	Entry requirements
X3 A Levels/L3 Applied General + Core RE + Enrichment + 1 week Work Experience (Extended Project Qualification will be optional)	Minimum of 5 x 9 - 5 at GCSE; average grade of at least 5 or above across all subjects; minimum Grade 5 in English and Maths
X3 A Levels/L3 Applied General courses + Core RE + Enrichment + 1 week Work Experience (Extended Project Qualification will not be available)	Minimum of 5 x 9 - 4 at GCSE and average grade of Grade 4 or above across all subjects
X2/3 A Level/L3 Applied General courses subjects and weekly Work Experience Pathway (only for students not considering university)	GCSE performance meets subject-specific entry criteria for subjects chosen (minimum Grade 4 or above in specified subjects)

Provisional Subject-specific entry requirements 2026/27

These requirements are to be met in addition to the requirements for Access to Year 12 Study Programmes.

Subject	Entry requirements	Possible alternative entry requirement
Art (A Level)	GCSE grade 5 or above in Art	
Biology (A)	GCSE grade 6 or above in Biology or Grade 6-6 Combined Science and grade 5 or above in Maths	
BTEC Sport	GCSE grade 5 or above in PE	Discussion with Curriculum Leader if not studied at GCSE
Business (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in Business and Grade 4 or above in Maths.	GCSE grade 4 or above in English and Maths if student did not study GCSE Business
Chemistry (A)	GCSE grade 6 or above in Chemistry or 6-6 Combined Science and grade 5 or above in Maths	
Criminology	GCSE grade 5 or above in English	
Dance (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in Drama	Discussion with Curriculum Leader if not studied at GCSE
Drama (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in Drama	Discussion with Curriculum Leader if not studied at GCSE
Digital Media (Tech Cert)	GCSE grade 5 or above in ICT	

Governors' Entry Requirements for Sixth Form

2026

	GCSE grade 4 or above in English and Maths	
English Literature (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in English	
English Combined Lang/Lit (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in English	
Fashion & textiles (A)	GCSE grade 4 or above in Art or Pass in Graphics	
Further Maths	GCSE Maths grade 7 or above at GCSE; must be studying A level Maths	
Health & Social Care (Applied General)	GCSE grade 4 or above in Health and Social Care or equivalent	
History (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in History	GCSE History is not a pre-requisite for this course
Maths (A)	GCSE grade 6 or above in Maths in Higher Paper	
Music (Tech Cert)	GCSE Grade 5 or above in Music	Discussion with Curriculum Leader if not studied at GCSE
Politics (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in English	
Physics (A)	GCSE grade 6 or above in Physics or 6-6 Combined Science and grade 6 or above in Maths	
Psychology (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in English; grade 5 or above in Maths or grade 4 in Science. Students with Grade 4 Maths will be required to study Core Maths in addition.	
Philosophy and Ethics (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in RE	
Sociology (A)	GCSE grade 5 or above in Sociology	GCSE grade 4 or above in English
Travel & Tourism	GCSE grade 4 or above in English	

Additional Guided Learning Hours

Since September 2022, The Department for Education has provided schools with funding for additional Guided Learning Hours for all Sixth Form students. This will allow school to provide students with a range of valuable opportunities to support them in their Sixth Form studies and to prepare them for their next steps after Sixth Form.

Students will have an additional timetabled lesson in order to fulfil this statutory requirement which will both prepare them for later life and further enrich their programme of study.

These additional hours are now a compulsory part of the programme of study for all Sixth Form students nationally and positive engagement is vital in order for students to ensure that they have a comparable range of experiences to their peers in other schools and colleges.

Progression to Year 13

- Most students who join Sixth Form in September 2026 will study with us for two years. This can be reviewed in situations where students wish to leave after Year 12 or where performance, attendance or conduct in Year 12 suggest that the students has not been fully participating in education
- Repeats of Year 12 will not be allowed except in a very few cases (e.g. where there are exceptional mitigating circumstances and supporting evidence)
- Students wishing to 'drop' or be removed from certain courses will be permitted to if there is reason to believe that this will raise their attainment in their remaining subjects. Where there is an A/S level examination for the subject they can only drop the course at the end of term and must attend all lessons until then. Where there is no A/S level examination, they will be required to make up the correct number of guided learning hours in order to ensure they are following a full time programme of study. Discussion with the Sixth Form Team is required in order to ensure guided learning hours are met.
- All students will complete a week of work experience in the summer term of Year 12 for which they organise a placement independently
- Entry to Sixth Form and progression to Year 13 courses is ultimately at the discretion of the Head teacher.